

On The Cotton Pony

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## Where Are The Heroes

—Dick Woline

FOIAb3b

So mean, dangerous Yalies have been traditional fixtures in the CIA hierarchy, have they? Yalies going off to become Junior James Bonds while their self-respecting professors are calling for the degrading of ROTC (and their self-righteous ones for its abolition).

Didn't they learn anything in four years at Yale?

Certainly every graduate knows that "be a secret agent" isn't a valid answer to "what ought I do?"

And surely there were enough free ideas flowing around to enable a student to choose a better profession than that. Surely there were models enough about to emulate: Kelly Simpson, for instance, or Adam Parry, the classicist, or Harry Scammell, for heaven's sake.

But no! Some of Mother Yale's finest are duped by the fake strength in James Bond's personality and the fake conviction of Alan Dulles's ideas every year. How could educated young men come to disgrace us, their alma mater? The University takes every safeguard to prevent such occurrences.

Like the grading system, reorganized just last year. The honors category allows the professor to include a written (prose, poetry, or other praise) summary of the student's outstanding work. Unhappily, most grades are assigned by the class secretary rather than by the professor himself, thus preventing the professor from establishing a close relation with his students and also preventing him from tempering Bond's influence with their own. Luckily some professors (the altruists mentioned above, for instance) do try to influence their students, intimately.

The University is structured to encourage the close interaction of faculty and students in extra-curricular life, too -- hopefully insuring the development of

sound attitudes not leading to jobs with the CIA. The Fellows, attending their weekly "Fellow's Lunches," are an invaluable source of adult opinion and influence in the general life of the college. Along with the master and dean, the fellows set a high standard of responsibility and scholarship that the students wisely emulate in all of their college affairs.

Each college also has a number of the University's bright young administrators affiliated with it. The presence of these administrators keeps the well-defined lines of communication between students and the administration open during lunch meetings.

The dining hall is also the gathering place for that most important branch of the University, the student body. Why, in some colleges the dining halls are even left open between meals in order to encourage student discussions, and to allow

students to catch a late (after 8:30 AM) cup of breakfast coffee.

The dining hall staff graciously added the burden of keeping the dining halls open between meals to their already heavy work load so as to have some conversations to overhear during the long, slow hours between meals. The dignified manner of the dining hall attendants is always impressive and is yet another example of the University's concerted efforts to show the students the appropriate attitude towards one's station in life.

The most appropriate attitudes towards one's station in life are maintained in the classroom--not by the students, of course, but by the faculty members assigned to oversee each hour of education. It is during these hours that the faculty member is the most freed from the necessity to "perform" because of his facility with the material being covered. It is during these hours that he must work the least hard.

One would think that with all of these precautions taken the University would not be embarrassed annually by some of its students joining the CIA. But even for all of the Yale's attempts to drive home the moral importance of issues, even for all the morally committed and articulate identities the student has the opportunity to adopt during his necessarily close relationships with professors and administrators, Yalies habitually make such faulty and shallow decisions.